

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EA/ROC:BLEVIN:BDS

APPROVED BY EA:WHGLEYSTEN,JR.

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 226187

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SCUL, CH, TW

SUBJECT: POTENTIAL PRC-ROC SPORT PRESENTATION CONFLICT

REF: STATE 216086

1. ACTING ON MOFA INSTRUCTIONS, ROC EMBASSY DCM, CHEN TAI-CHU SEPTEMBER 19 ASKED GLEYSTEN FOR RECONSIDERATION OF OUR POSITION ON PROPOSED TOUR OF ROC GIRL'S BASKETBALL (REFTEL). CHEN ARGUED THAT THE TOUR WAS PRIVATELY ARRANGED, A TWO-WEEK INTERVAL BETWEEN PRC AND ROC SCHEDULED GAMES WITH QUEENS COLLEGE IS SUFFICIENT TO AVOID CONFUSION AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS AND AS ALLY AND FRIEND US SHOULD BE MORE FORTHCOMING IN ITS TREATMENT OF ROC VISITING GROUPS.

2. IN REITERATING OUR ORIGINAL REQUEST THAT ROC TEAM EITHER DELAY TOUR FOR ONE MONTH OR CANCEL GAME WITH QUEENS COLLEGE, GLEYSTEN POINTED OUT THAT ROC TEAM WAS SPONSORED BY A GOVERNMENT OWNED ENTITY AND THAT WE DID NOT SHARE ROC'S OPTIMISM ABOUT UNLIKELIHOOD OF POLITICAL COMPLICATIONS. GLEYSTEN SUGGESTED THAT ROC CONTACT QUEENS COLLEGE TO EITHER CANCEL OR RE-SCHEDULE GAME. WE WERE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH QUEENS COLLEGE SHOULD IT BE NECESSARY OR HELPFUL. INGERSOLL

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